ated any action to bring the books and other important documents lying in the India Office Library, London;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be brought back?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) 3473 rolls of microfilms of important documents from the India Office Library, London have been acquired so far by the National Archives of India. Negotiations continue for further acquisition. Inspite of our best efforts, the India Office Library, London has expressed its inability to part with original books and documents.

(c) The process of acquisition is an ongoing programme considering the volume of the material in the India Office Library.

Rail Transport in North Bengal

1884. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received requests from people of North Bengal to develop rail transport system in that area;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) There have been demands for the early completion of the Eklakhi–Balurghat new line.

(c) On account of acute constraint of resources, no funds could be allotted to this project since 1987-88. Progress of this project will depend upon availability of resources in the coming years.

[*Translation*]

Linking of Jhansi by Air

1885. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link Jhansi by air;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a). No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is not possible to air link Jhansi at the present juncture due to commercial and operational reasons.

[*English*]

Performance of Indira Gandhi National Open University

1886. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether performance of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Centre set up at Kavaratti is excellent;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to establish this Centre at Kavaratti permanently on full time basis; and